

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>Applicant:</b> Tim Miller	<b>Attorney Docket No.:</b> FORT-001500
<b>Application No.:</b> 09/894,471	<b>Examiner:</b> Lee, Philip C.
<b>Filed:</b> June 28, 2001	<b>Art Unit:</b> 2154
<b>For:</b> IDENTIFYING NODES IN A RING NETWORK	<b>Confirmation No.:</b> 5982

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Electronically Filed on  
January 11, 2007

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**  
**(37 CFR 1.104(e))**

Sir:

As an initial matter, the undersigned would like to thank the Examiner for his thorough search and examination of the above-captioned application and the allowance of claims 1-6 and 30-40 in the Notice of Allowability, mailed January 4, 2007.

The undersigned appreciates the difficulty in connection with attempting to summarize various claims typically of differing scope. However, for purposes of preserving the Applicant's rights and in an effort to make the record clear for those that may later view the file wrapper, the undersigned submits herein a statement commenting on the reasons for allowance and respectfully requests that it be made of record.

***Statement Commenting on the Reasons for Allowance***

The Examiner, in his statement as to the reasons for allowance ("Statement") indicates "[n]one of the prior art of records [*sic*] teach or suggest in combination a method of detecting nodes in a ring computer network, comprising: [list of limitations]." Because not all of the

allowed independent claims include all of the limitations recited by the Examiner in his Statement, it is apparent to the undersigned that the Examiner simply paraphrased a set of limitations from an exemplary allowed independent claim. Consequently, while the limitations recited by the Examiner may be present in some allowed claims, such as independent claim 1, no claim should be construed to require any or all of the limitations specifically called out by the Examiner in his Statement.

The undersigned would like to emphasize that the claims should be construed in accordance with the limitations expressly recited therein and without reference to the Examiner's Statement. That is, no claim should be construed to include any of the limitations listed by the Examiner in his Statement unless such limitation is specifically recited by the claim language.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON & DESANCTIS

Date: January 11, 2007

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